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PUVA + IFN-α2b combined therapy for mycosis fungoides in Russia

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IFN-α2b + PUVA for mycosis fungoides (MF) has been described in only few small studies. The aim of our survey was to evaluate the efficacy and tolerability of PUVA + IFN-α2b therapy for patients with MF.

We observed 15 patients with MF. The diagnoses were verified with histological, immunohictochemical methods and molecular analysis. In addition, the safety and tolerability of IFN-α and PUVA-therapy were evaluated.

In terms of the stage of the disease, patients were distributed as follows: IB – 1 (7%), IIA – 4 (27%), IIB – 4 (27%), IIIA – 2 (12,5%), IIIB – 1 (7%), IVA – 1 (7%), IVB – 2 (12,5%). PUVA-therapy was performed four times a week with the initial dose of the irradiation was 0,5-1,0 J/cm2. The course of therapy consisted of 39±7 procedures. The total dose was 159±43 J/cm2. Also IFN-α was prescribed to the patients (3 IU three times a week). The total dose was 109±36 IU.

After the therapy, 11 (73%) patients with stage IB-IIIA witnessed mSWAT index reduction of 90-100%, which corresponded to complete clinical remission manifested in the disappearance of cutaneous manifestations and subjective perceptions. 3 (20%) of patients with stage IIIB-IVA saw mSWAT index decreasing from 50 to 75% and 1 (7%) patient with stage IVB of MF did not experience an effect of the therapy.

IFN-α2b + PUVA treatment seemed to be an efficacious and tolerated therapy option for MF patients refractory to PUVA, especially in patients with IB-IIB stage.

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